

WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF WRATH

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TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF WRATH

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TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF WRATH

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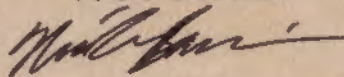
TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF

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155 Ninth Ave., Suite E
Rumson, NJ 08078

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Civil war era Cybertron. With Optimus Prime and Megatron missing, presumed dead, a series of new splinter factions--Wreckers, Ultracons, Predacons and Grimlock's Lightning Strike Coalition--enter the battle for the TRANSFORMERS' homeworld. Border wars erupt across the planet, territory and energon now both key to victory. With the defeat of the being known as The Fallen, on one front a concerted push for peace begins...

"WELL, WE
DID IT..."

...WE TOOK
IT BACK!"

THE AGE OF WRATH

Writer

SIMON FURMAN

Pencils

JOE NG

Inks

TRACY HQ

Assistant Inks

HERD POBLSITE

Colors

ROB RUFFOLO

DAVID CHUNG

JOSH BURCHAM

Letters

BEN LEE

PROVINCE-BY-PROVINCE,
CITY-STATE-BY-CITY-STATE, IT
TOOK OVER SIXTY MEGA-CYCLES
AND COST MORE LIVES THAN I
CARE TO REMEMBER, BUT WHILE
OUR ENEMIES WERE STILL FEUDING
OVER INSUBSTANTIAL BORDERS
WE UNITED ONCE MORE UNDER
THE *AUTOBOT* BANNER...

...AND ACTED
PROACTIVELY, *DECISIVELY*,
TURNED IT *AROUND!* THE CIVIL
WAR THAT'S GRIPPED THIS WORLD
FOR NIGH-ON AN ETERNITY...
IT'S SO *NEARLY* OVER.

AND
YOU KNOW
WHAT?

WE DID
IT WITHOUT
YOU!

CYBERTRON
HUB-CAPITAL
ACORN

OH, I KNOW. THE
NOBLE *OPTIMUS PRIME*,
BOLDLY SACRIFICING HIMSELF
FOR THE GREATER GOOD,
BUT WHEN YOU WERE HURLING
YOURSELF--AND *MEGATRON*--
INTO *OBLIVION* DID YOU EVEN
ONCE CONSIDER...

...WHAT YOU
WERE LEAVING
BEHIND?

I LIVED IN *AWE*
OF YOU, STOOD WILLINGLY
AND HAPPILY IN YOUR SHADOW,
CONTENT TO BATHE IN THE
OCCASIONAL SHAFT OF
REFLECTED GLORY.

AND THEN YOU WERE
GONE, AND IT ALL *FELL*
APART. THEY LOOKED TO
ME AND...I JUST *WASN'T*
READY, *WASN'T* ABLE...

I TURNED
MY *BACK* ON THEM
ALL, LEFT
AUTOBASE NEVER
TO RETURN...



"BUT I DID.
I SWALLOWED MY
INSECURITY, MY
DOUBTS AND, YES,
MY FEAR..."

...AND LED BY
EXAMPLE, WON THE
PUMPS AND PROCESSORS
OF EVEN MY STERNEST
CRITICS."

BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW WHAT
IT TOOK!

EVERY DECISION,
EVERY STRATEGY...I AGONIZED
OVER, SECOND-GUESSED.
NOT A MOMENT WENT BY
WHEN I DIDN'T EXPECT IT ALL
TO COME CRASHING DOWN
AROUND ME.

AND THERE
I'D BE, REVEALED,
THE PRETENDER-TO-
THE-THRONE...

...THE
LEADER WHO
NEVER WAS.

FINISHED
TALKING TO
YOURSELF?

GOOD.
'CAUSE IT
TIME...

...TO WRAP
THIS WHOLE
MESS UP!



SHOCKWAVE WANTS TO LET ULTRA MAGNUS AND HIS AUTOBOTS WALK ALL OVER HIM, FINE, BUT NOT ME, NOT US! WE'VE CARVED OUT OUR OWN EMPIRE, MAPPED OUT OUR OWN AGENDA...WE'LL NEVER GIVE IN, NEVER SURRENDER...NEVER!



THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY, NOTHING MORE OR LESS...TO DESTROY ALL OUR ENEMIES IN ONE FELL SWOOP.



ER... STARScream...

MAYBE THIS ISN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA, I MEAN, EVEN IF WE TAKE OUT, SAY, FIFTY PERCENT OF THEM WITH THE FIRST STRIKE, WE'RE STILL OUTNUMBERED SIX TO ONE, AND--



YOU JOIN US HERE, LIVE

...AND TYGER PAX, WHERE PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORMAL **CEASEFIRE** CEREMONY ARE UNDERWAY.

WHERE REAL ME HOLOFEEDS ARE SET TO RELAY THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE NEW **HIGH COUNCIL** ACROSS THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF CYBERTRON.

TRAGICALLY, SEVERAL **ORIGINAL COUNCIL** MEMBERS WERE KILLED WHEN JACON WAS DEVASTATED BY SUBSURFACE TREMORS, WHILE THE REMAINDER WERE FORCED INTO EXILE BUT NOW, WITH KEY **DISARMAMENT** TALKS UNDERWAY, IT WAS FINALLY CONSIDERED **SAFE** TO RECONVENE.

APPRENTICE **ERONUS**, **NEO** AND **TEMPLAR** HAVE STEPPED UP TO FILL THE VOID LEFT BY THE LATE, LAMENTED **GRAY TAG**, **KUDON** AND **VRAZ**, ENSURING THAT THIS **HISTORIC** ACCORD IS DULY AND OFFICIALLY RATIFIED.

IN SLANDANCE, AND I... BE REPORTING SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM BOTH THE CHAMBER OF THE ANCIENTS

WITH THE BASIC POWER SHARING INITIATIVES ALREADY **AGREED** AND THE ROAD MAP FOR PEACE Laid OUT, IT ONLY REMAINS TO **FORMALIZE** THE TREATY THAT WILL USHER IN A NEW **GOLDEN AGE** FOR CYBERTRON.

AND WITH THE FINAL SECURITY SWEEPS NOW JUST ABOUT DONE, THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE **DECEPTICONS** AND **ULTRACONS** ARE APPROACHING THE **FORUM**.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF **ULTRA** **MALNUS** IS ALREADY IN POSITION, AND IF HE FEELS THE **WEIGHT** OF EXPECTATION OF BILLIONS OF CYBERTRONIANS PLANETWIDE.

...HE'S NOT SHOWING IT.

PROBLEM, GRIMLOCK?



MF

WHILE PLACE
PROBLEM TOO OPEN, TOO
EXPOSED - TYLE OR NO
SECURE PERIMETER BUT
DYNOBOTS ON MOBILE ALERT
STATUS, BUT NO WAY TO COVER
ALL POSSIBLE ATTACK
SCENARIOS

HAD TO BE
THIS WAY T'S ABOUT
TRUST NOW



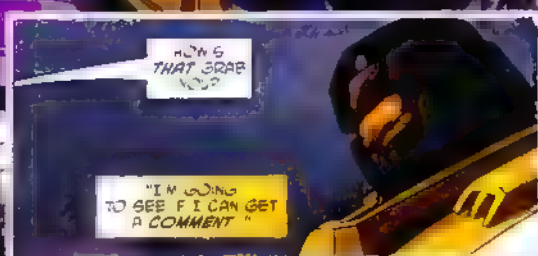
FEN

TRUST ONLY
WYSE, F

THINK
ABOUT IT,
GRIMLOCK



"OLD ENMITIES BURIED, OLD GRUDGES
SHELVED IN THESE CRITICAL, ENERGON-
DEPLETED DAYS, A COMMITTED, UNIFIED DRIVE
FOR SURVIVAL IT'S THE WAY FORWARD, THE
ONLY LOGICAL COURSE OF ACTION. ONE
RACE, ONE GOAL. PEACE IN OUR TIME."



HUNG
THAT GRAB

"I'M GOING
TO SEE F I CAN GET
A COMMENT"

COMMANDER
SHOCKWAVE, ANY
THOUGHTS ON--

HIGH
EXECUTOR
RATBAT,
COULD--

NO.

AM,
BARRAGE,
SOMETHING YOU'D
LIKE OUR
AUDIENCE TO
HEAR...?

YEAH.

JUST
BUGGIN' JS!

AK!

WE MAY AM,
AS YOU CAN PLAINLY
SEE... SOME TENSIONS
STILL TO BE WORKED
OUT NEVERTHELESS.

WE
APPEAR TO BE
UNDERWAY

SHOCKWAVE,
RATBAT, WE MEET HERE
AS EQUALS, NEITHER
VICTOR NOR VANQUISHED.
NON-ALIGNED, WITH ONLY
ONE AGENDA--

SPARE JS YOUR
QUAS-PATRONIZING ORATORY,
MAGNUS WE ACKNOWLEDGE
YOUR SUPERIORITY IN TERMS
OF TERRITORY, RESOURCES
AND DUE LARGELY TO THE
VICTORY AT KALIS' ENERGON
RESERVES

A DRAWN OUT
CONFLICT SERVES NO
PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO
ENDANGER OUR ENTIRE
RACE'S LONG TERM
SURVIVAL

RIGHT SO
CAN WE JUST GET
ON WITH THIS



AM RIGHT
OKAY.

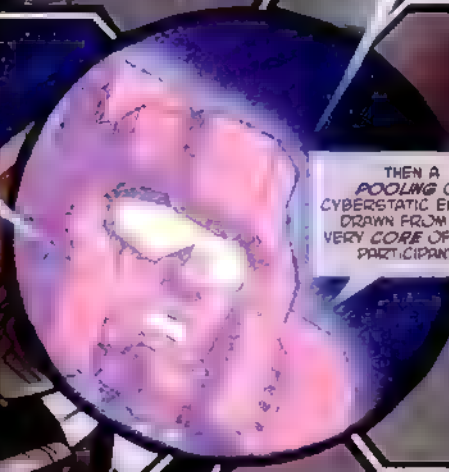
AN ANXIOUS,
EXCITED MUSH HAS
DESCENDED ON THOSE
GATHERED HERE AT THE
CHAMBER OF THE
ANCIENTS AND HERE AT
TYGER PAX.



AS THE
DISARMAMENT
PROTOCOL BEGINS
IN EARNEST.

THREE DATA
ZIP-TAGS, LOADED
WITH COMMAND CODES FOR
MULTILATERAL *OBSCOLESCENCE*,
BEAMING SIMULTANEOUS
DECOMMISSIONING SIGNAL PULSES
TO RECEPTORS IN THE LARGE
SCALE WEAPONS ARSENALS
OF EACH FACTION...

...EFFECTIVELY
NULLIFYING THEM.



THEN A
POOLING OF
CYBERSTATIC ENERGY,
DRAWN FROM THE
VERY CORE OF EACH
PARTICIPANT...

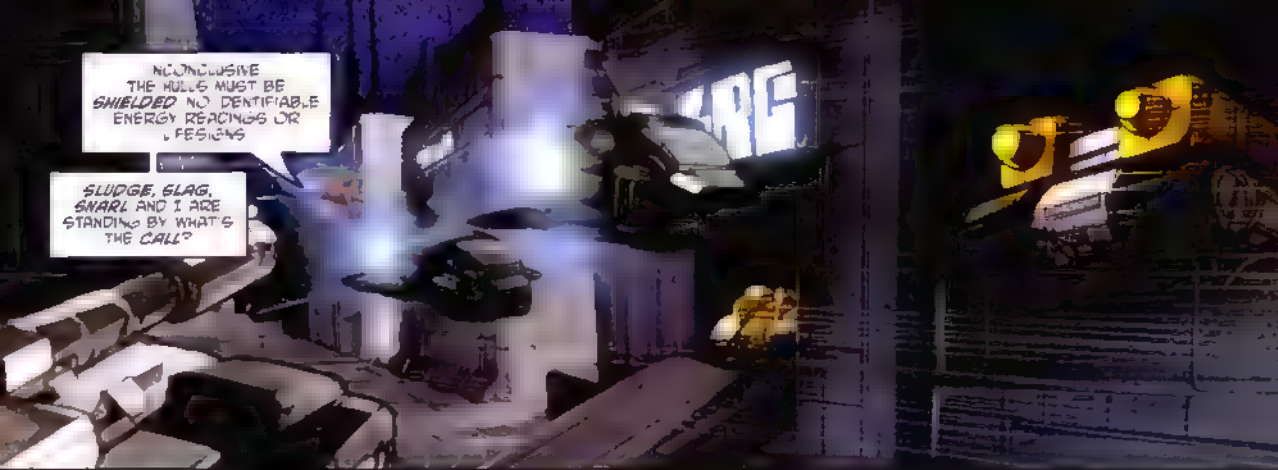
AND,
FINALLY

'DRSK' GRIMLOCK--
THIS IS SWOOP. WE HAVE TWO
UNIDENTIFIED ORE TRANSPORTERS
ON FINAL APPROACH TO
TYGER PAX. NO RESPONSE
TO MY HAILS.

...AND STORED
IN A CEREMONIAL
ORB.

SO PRECIOUS IS THIS
MYSTERIOUS AND POTENT
RESERVE JAR OF POWER, A
LOCALISED CONTAINMENT
FIELD HAS BEEN ERECTED
TO ENSURE NOT ONE
MICRO ERG ESCAPES INTO
THE ATMOSPHERE.

SCANS?



INCONCLUSIVE
THE HULLS MUST BE
SHIELDED NO IDENTIFIABLE
ENERGY READINGS OR
LIFE SIGNS

SLUDGE, ELAG,
SNARL AND I ARE
STANDING BY WHAT'S
THE CALL?

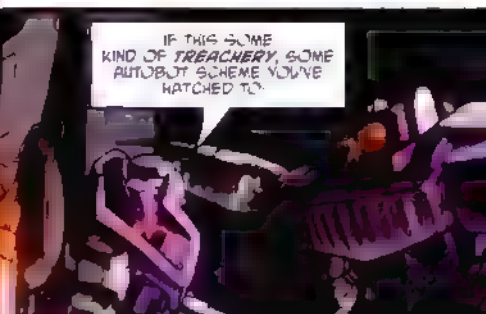


GRIMLOCK?



SHOUT
THEM DOWN

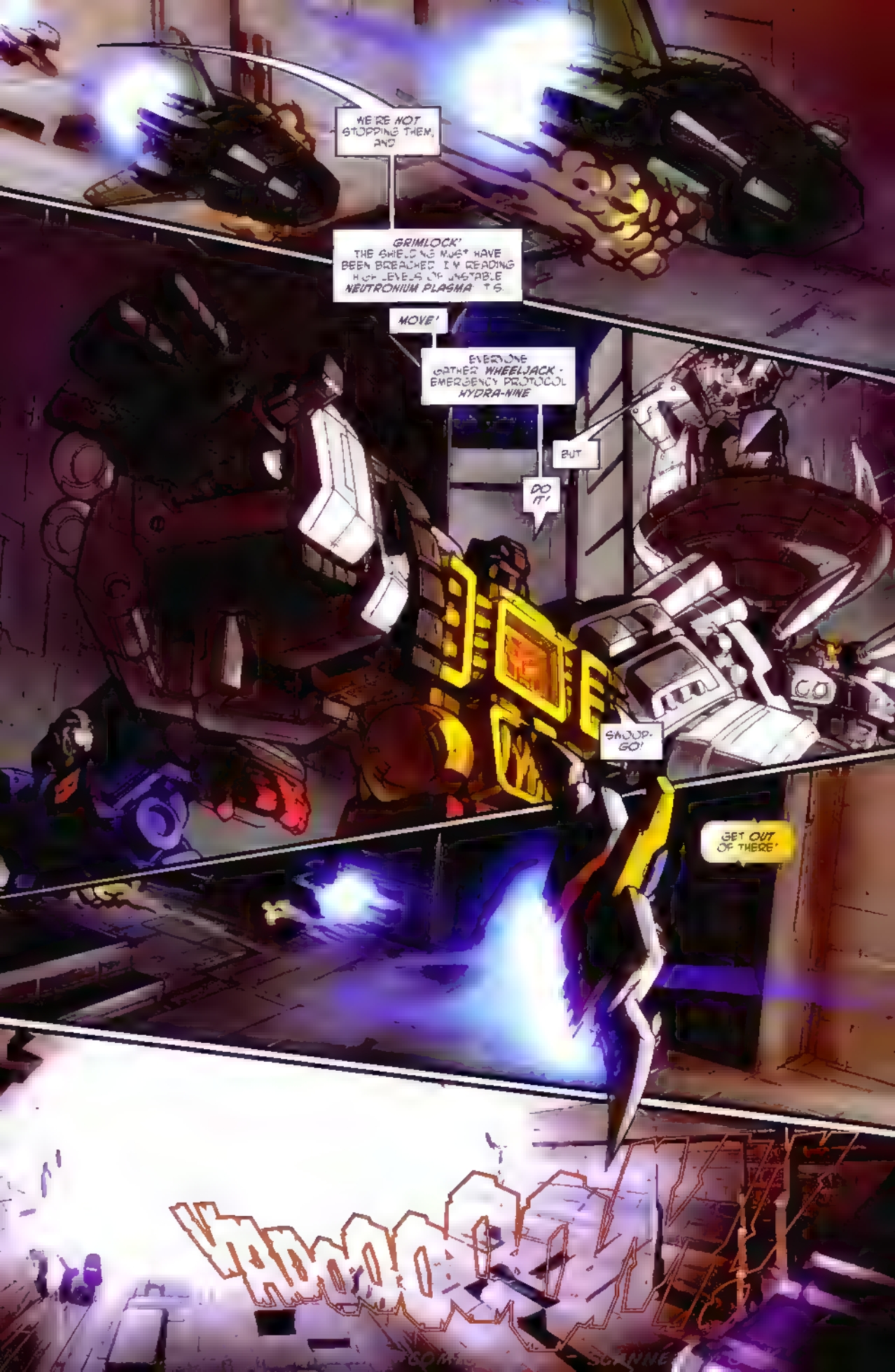
WHAT?
BUT WE DON'T
KNOW



IF THIS SOME
KIND OF TREACHERY, SOME
AUTOBOT SCHEME YOU'VE
WATCHED TO



ALL
WEAPONS!



WE'RE NOT
STOPPING THEM,
AND

GRIMLOCK:
THE SHIELDING MUST HAVE
BEEN BREACHED. I'M READING
HIGH LEVELS OF UNSTABLE
NEUTRONIUM PLASMA. T.S.

MOVE!

EVERYONE
LEATHER **WHEELJACK** -
EMERGENCY PROTOCOL
HYDRA-NINE

BUT


DO
IT!

SAVOUR
GO!

GET OUT
OF THERE!

WAAAA





IN THE
ABSENCE OF ANYONE
EVEN REMOTELY SUITABLE
TO TAKE CHARGE,
I'M STEPPING UP

WHAT?
NO! THIS IS AN
OUTRAGE, A

AS I WAS SAYING,
I'M THE NEW AUTHORITY
AROUND HERE. NO MOTIONS,
NO DEBATE, NO ANY OTHER
BUSINESS. WHAT I
SAY GOES.

AND THIS
SESSION OF THE
COUNCIL

IS HEREBY
DISSOLVED!

WAIT.
I'M...

BEAAH!

YOU,
NEWSCARRIER,
BEAR WITNESS

TO THE DARK
GLORY OF THE DAWN OF
DEVASTATION!



SHOULD WE GET THEM?

ALL OF THEM?

TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED. KEEP YOUR OPTICS BOUNDED AND DIGITS ON TRIGGERS. ANY SURVIVORS.

PUT THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY.



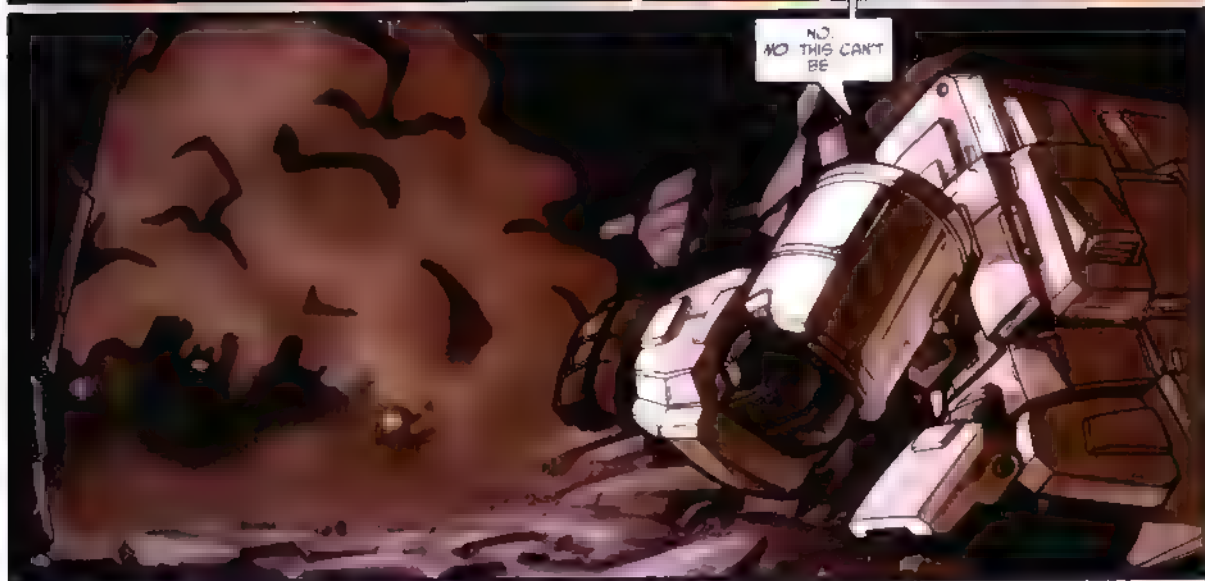
FAH. NOTHING COULD HAVE SURVIVED THIS SHAME.

I WAS HOPEING FOR A LITTLE MORE SPORT, A BIT OF TARGET.



PRACTICE

WHAT?



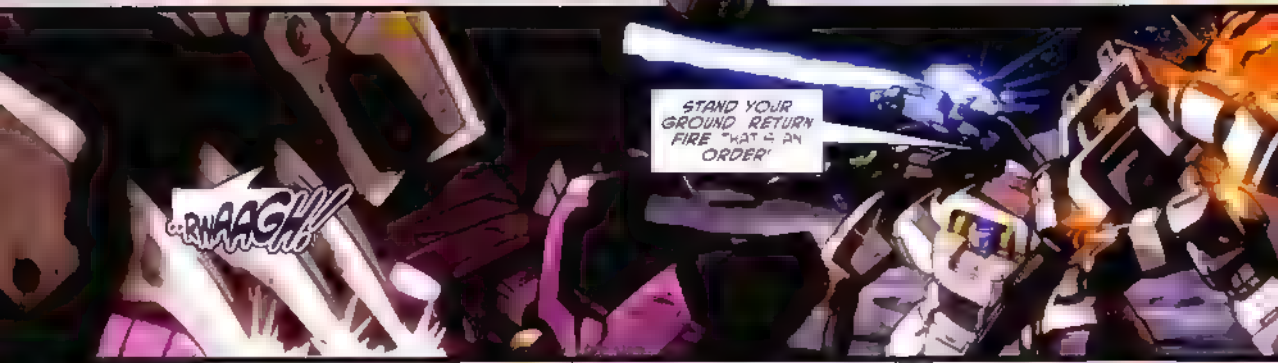
NO. NO. THIS CAN'T BE.



NEEL
T IS!

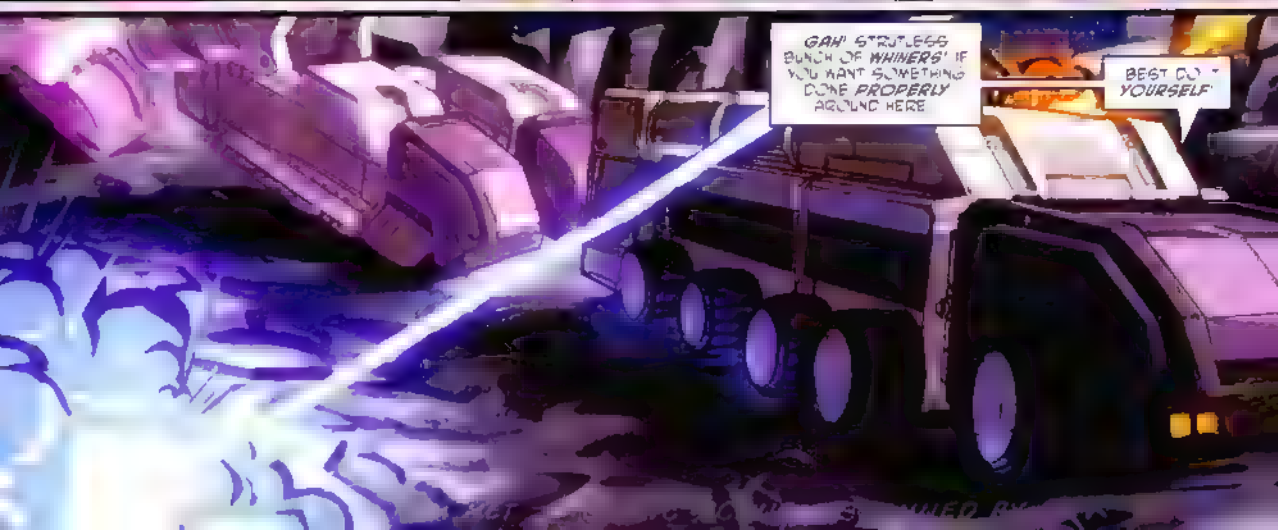
RENEGADES...
YOUR DAY IS DONE
FOR CRIMES AGAINST
ALL CYBERTRON
PERISH!

RR



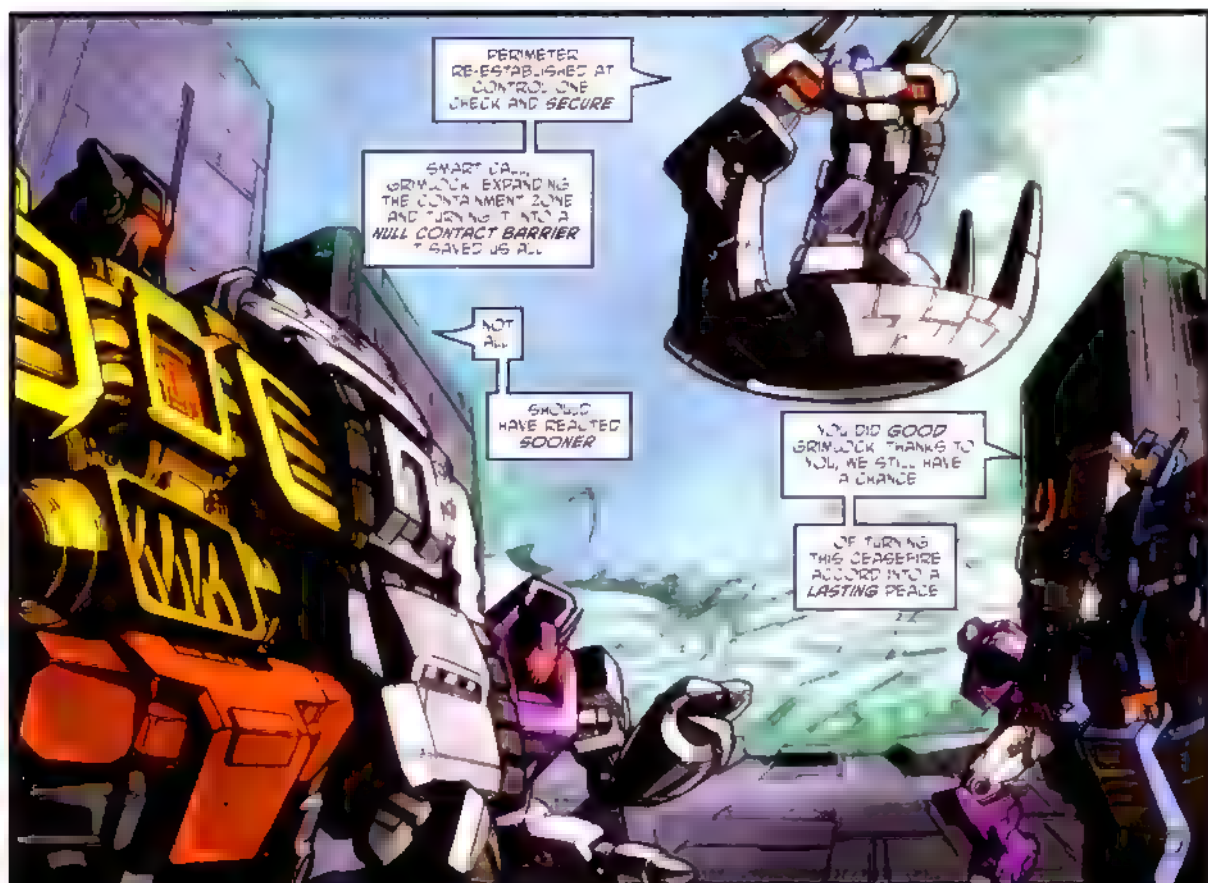
RRRAAGH!!

STAND YOUR
GROUND RETURN
FIRE THAT IS AN
ORDER!



GAH! STRUTLESS
BUNCH OF WHINERS! IF
YOU WANT SOMETHING
DONE PROPERLY
AROUND HERE

BEST GO
YOURSELF

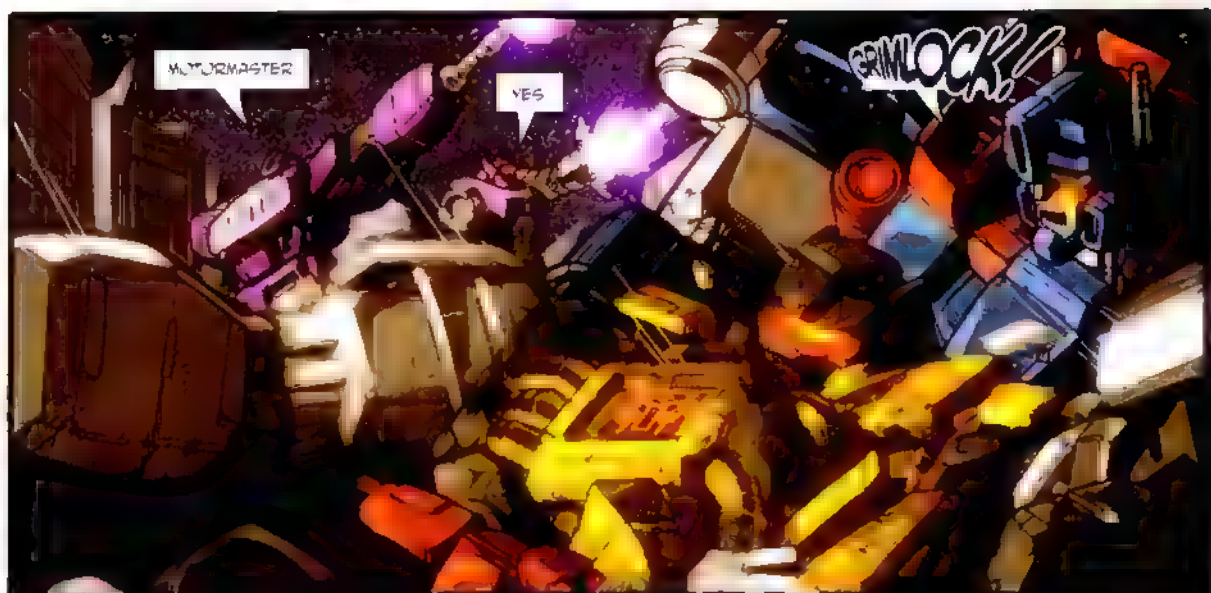


WHAT'S THAT SAYING OF STARScream's? ON YEAH IF N OUBT

CUT OFF THE HEAD!

INCOMING...

GRIMLOCK?





MEGATRON

TO BE
CONCLUDED

DECLARATIONS OF WAR

Greetings Transfans,
After the incredible Dark Ages saga ended, we were flooded with a whole arkload of letters - so let's get to some of them! Speaking of Volume 2, if you want a great keepsake of Furman's epic storyline based around the Fallen, the *TF War Within: "The Dark Ages"* TPB is on sale now. There's quite a few super-cool extras - interviews, profiles, and more - so be sure to scoop it up!



Hello DW!

I'm really enjoying *War Within*, and it's become my favorite of the *Transformers* series you publish. It's especially good to see Andy Wildman back drawing the mechanoids. Is there any chance you could coax Geoff Senior out of retirement? I know he doesn't fit the Dreamwave "house style", but you'd be making the inhabitants of a small island nation very happy!

Thanks
Kelvin Green

Great to hear *War Within* is as hot as it was when it first came out. And yeah, having Wildman and Furman definitely makes *TF Fans* wonder what decade we are in - did we teleport back to the eighties, perchance? For those unfamiliar with what Geoff Senior is up to, here's a synopsis, courtesy of Mr. Simon Furman:

"Geoff did the covers for the Titan *TF* collections, *Target: 2006*, *Fallen Angel*, *Legacy of Unicron*, *Space Pirates*, *Time Wars* and *City of Fear*. The last *TF* strip stuff he did was for a convention exclusive comic in 2000, called *Reaching the Omega Point*." As far as Senior coming aboard? How about a wonderfully ambiguous answer: "no plans yet...but you just never know."

Greetings Dreamwave,
This is my first time writing to a comic book letter page. *War Within* is most triumphant. Simon Furman and Andrew Wildman form a bodacious duo. It truly deserves its own ongoing series for two reasons. Firstly, because of its excellent cast of characters such as Ratbat, Springer, Roadbuster, Trypticon, and The Fallen. Secondly, it is due to the fact there are no humans that can dilute the story since they don't exist. I was inspired to write because I have to plead for you to make *War Within* an ongoing series, eventually make

a *MTMTE* profile book, and persuade Hasbro to make a *War Within* cartoon followed with a toyline to appease the true *Transformers* fans. Before Dreamwave obtained the rights to the *Transformers* comics I hadn't bought a comic since I was a kid. Now I go every Wednesday in hopes for new *Transformers* comics. Thank you Dreamwave!

Optimus Chris Hanania
Carbondale, Illinois

I think everyone would love for there to be a *War Within* cartoon and toyline. There aren't any plans, but hey - it's not impossible, is it. *War Within* is a fantastic story for old and new fans, and it's great to "go back" and imagine and create what all of our *TFs* would have looked like before they came to Earth. For a good look at some of the designs for the *War Within* 'bots, with explanations by Don Figueroa and Andrew Wildman on how their

artistic renditions came to be, check out the *TF War Within: "The Dark Ages"* TPB - it's all there!

Hi,

I'm a massive fan of your *Transformers War Within* series but I came to it a bit late (they've only recently started selling your books at my local comic shop) and I can't find any copies from the first *War Within* series. I heard it was collected in a Trade Paperback but this seems almost impossible to find (assuming I'm not just being cruelly misled and it was actually released at some point). It doesn't seem to be available in your online store - did it ever come out? And where can I get my hands on it if it did?

Keep up the good work with the *TFs*,
Don Sharp

Good news and bad news. The bad news (which is really good news, if you think about it) is that the original *TF War Within* Vol. 1 TPB is sold out in most stores. Now, for the really good news - the pocket edition is now available. Give it a go and check it out.

Well everyone, hope you're as psyched as we are about another arc in the *War Within* era! There's lots more excitement coming our way, and undoubtedly, plenty of questions and comments for the gang here at DW. So fire away, folks - we'll see you in thirty big ones!

MATT HANSEN

Copy Editor
Dreamwave Productions



#2 NEXT MONTH

PURGATORY! Defeated, enslaved, ground beneath the conquering heel of the newly returned MEGATRON and put to work in the cauldron of CYBERTRON's inner core. Surely it can't get any worse for the AUTOBOTS and their leader, ULTRA MAGNUS. Wrong, big-time! These trials and ordeals are only the tip of the iceberg in terms of MEGATRON's plans. But is all as it seems? Or is someone else pulling the strings... someone deadlier still?

TRANSFORMERS.COM

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WAR IS COMING: DW BRINGS KILLZONE TO COMICS

Killzone is the next biggest thing in gaming — it sets a new precedent with recreating the intense reality of warfare. Dreamwave is psyched to be able to bring this amazing first-person shooter to the comic page — the hype leading up to the release of the Killzone game has been non-stop: gamers are saying this is the next Halo!

In Dreamwave's adaptation, the planet Vecta has been overrun with the vicious Helghast — those gun-toting, red-eyed humanoids that have one thing in mind: annihilation! Now it's up to the Interplanetary Strategic Alliance to stop them! Although it's a sci-fi story, one of the coolest aspects of the comic and the **Playstation2** game is its allusion to 20th century warfare. Everything from the weapons — based on WW2 Allies and Axis guns — to the battles themselves (based on some of the most famous fights of the past hundred years), has been researched and created to make one of the coolest war stories ever.

Written by **John Ney Rieber** (**TRANSFORMERS/G.I. JOE** Vol.1) and with art by **Travel Foreman** (currently working on Marvel's much anticipated **Dr. Spectrum** series), **Killzone** is not to be missed! Rieber's words embody the excitement at Dreamwave about **Killzone**:

"I believe this game is going to redefine the genre — maybe even redefine the concept of the videogame — so when I was offered the chance to roll up my sleeves and work with these characters in this brutally textured future, to explore the stark vision of war the game embodies with an artist like Travel, my reaction was: load it up and pass me the controller! I have been waiting for an opportunity like this, and am psyched to be involved!"

It makes perfect sense that Dreamwave takes on **Killzone** — the game is packed with amazing features, incredible characters and hyper-detailed art — so look for more of the same in the comic! Follow the Interplanetary Strategic Alliance try and defeat the vicious Helghast as four scattered survivors unite to forge the key to humanity's continued existence. In order to do, they must make it through the dark tunnels in the bloody trenches and burning towers of a world that could become a **Killzone**...

Killzone #1 blazes into comic retailers everywhere this **November**.



SEPTEMBER SWAG:



BUBBLEGUM CRISIS
TOKYO 2040
LITHOGRAPH



DUEL MASTERS
VOL.2 POCKET BOOK



TFENERGON
#27



TFGENERATION ONE
#9



TFMICROMASTERS
#4 of 4



TFWAR WITHIN
"THE AGE OF WRATH"
#1



TFWAR WITHIN VOL.2
"THE DARK AGES" TPB



FROM THE DESK OF ERIK SANDER

HI MY NAME IS E-ROCK AND WELCOME TO MY WORK SHOP
4 YEARS I'VE BEEN INKIN' BUT THE WORK DON'T STOP
IT'S ALL GOOD THOUGH 'CAUSE MY SKILLZ U CAN'T TOP
MY TRAIN OF THOUGHT YOU CAN'T POP
I'LL INK IN A SUIT OR BOXERS AND A TANK TOP

I LOVE MY JOB SO I KNOW HOW TO BEHAVE
IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED YET I WORK AT DREAMWAVE

FROM TRANSFORMERS TO TURTLES WHAT CAN BE NEXT MAN
AWWWWWWW GEEZ I GOT TO DO THE COVER OF X-MEN

AND IF THAT AIN'T ENOUGH TO PUT ME HIGH ON MY THRONE
PAT TO THA LEE GAVE ME THE HONOR OF WORKIN' ON KILLZONE

SOMETIMES THE EXCITEMENT'S TOO MUCH, I CAN'T HANDLE IT ALL MAN
I GOT TO WORK WITH THE BEST FROM PAT TO TRAVEL FOREMAN!

E-Rock

ERIK SANDER
INKER, DREAMWAVE PRODUCTIONS

BASE OF OPERATIONS:
Toronto, ON
CURRENT/UPCOMING PROJECTS:

Inker: TF Micromasters, Killzone

PAST PROJECTS:
Inker: TMNT, Fate of the Blade, Shidima, Sandstorm, TF War Within Vol.2

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Versus

IF I COULD BE ANY TRANSFORMER TO BE:
Blaster. 'Cause he produces sick beats.

DREAM COMIC PROJECT:
Daredevil or Ninja Gaiden

SHOUT OUTS:
ALL DW PEEPS, FAMILY, STORE AND OF COURSE 24

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